

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and further and favorable reconsideration of the subject application in light of the following remarks, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, are respectfully requested.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1-24, 26, 28-29, 33-38, and 40 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter has been added.

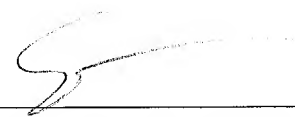
All rejections cited in the Office Action have been rendered moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-24, 26, 28-29, 33-38, and 40. Claim 39 has been deemed allowable by the Examiner (see page 8 of the Office Action). This action is not an indication of acquiescence of any aspect of the Examiner's rejections and comments.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited.

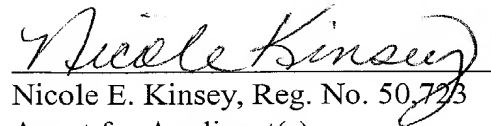
In the event that there are any questions relating to this application, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney or agent concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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